

Department of Energy

§ 1015.8

(iii) Any case in which collection of the type of debt involved by administrative offset is explicitly provided for or prohibited by another statute.

However, unless otherwise provided for by contract or law, debts or payments which are not subject to administrative offset under 31 U.S.C. 3716 may be collected by administrative offset under the common law or other applicable statutory authority.

(4) Salary offsets and offsets against military retired pay are governed by 5 U.S.C. 5514.

(5) Collection by administrative offset of amounts payable from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund will be made pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3716 and 5 U.S.C. 5705 and regulations thereunder.

(6) Collections made by administrative offset under 31 U.S.C. 3716, shall be in accordance with the procedural requirements set forth in § 1015.3(d) of this part.

(b) *Interagency requests.* (1) Requests to DOE by other Federal agencies for administrative offset should be in writing and forwarded to the Department of Energy, Office of the Controller (MA-3), 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585.

(2) Requests by DOE to other Federal agencies holding funds payable to the debtor should be in writing and forwarded, certified return receipt, as specified by that agency in its regulations. If such rule is not readily available or identifiable, the request should be submitted to that agency's office of legal counsel with a request that it be processed in accordance with their internal procedures.

(3) Requests to DOE should be processed within 30 calendar days of receipt. If such processing is not practical or feasible, notice to extend the time period for another 30 calendar days should be forwarded 10 calendar days prior to the expiration of the first 30-day period.

(4) Requests to or from DOE must be accompanied by a written certification that the debtor owes the debt (including the amount) and that the requesting agency has fully complied with the provisions of 4 CFR 102.3. DOE will cooperate with other agencies in effect-

ing collection unless the offset would be otherwise contrary to law.

(5) If administrative offset cannot be effected through DOE or other known Federal agency accounts payable, then DOE will place a complete stop order against amounts otherwise payable to the debtor by placing the name of that debtor on the Department of the Army "List of Contractors Indebted to the United States." If any amounts are discovered under this procedure, they will be offset against the debt owed to DOE provided that applicable provisions of 4 CFR parts 101-105 have been met and the offset would not otherwise be contrary to law.

§ 1015.7 Settlement of claims.

(a) In accordance with the provisions of 4 CFR part 103, DOE officials listed in § 1015.5(c) of this part may settle claims not exceeding \$20,000, exclusive of interest, penalties, and administrative charges, by compromise at less than the principal of the claim if:

(1) The debtor shows an inability to pay the full amount within a reasonable time or refuses to pay the claim in full and DOE is unable to enforce collection in full within a reasonable time by enforced collection proceedings;

(2) There is real doubt concerning the Government's ability to prove its case in court for the full amount claimed, either because of the legal issues involved or a bona fide dispute as to the facts;

(3) The amount of the claim does not justify the actual foreseeable cost of collecting the claim; or

(4) A combination of the above reasons.

(b) DOE may suspend or terminate collection action in accordance with the terms and procedures contained in 4 CFR part 104.

§ 1015.8 Referral for litigation.

Claims on which aggressive collection action has been taken in accordance with 4 CFR part 102 and which cannot be compromised or on which collection action cannot be suspended or terminated under 4 CFR parts 103 and 104 will be referred to the General Accounting Office or the Department